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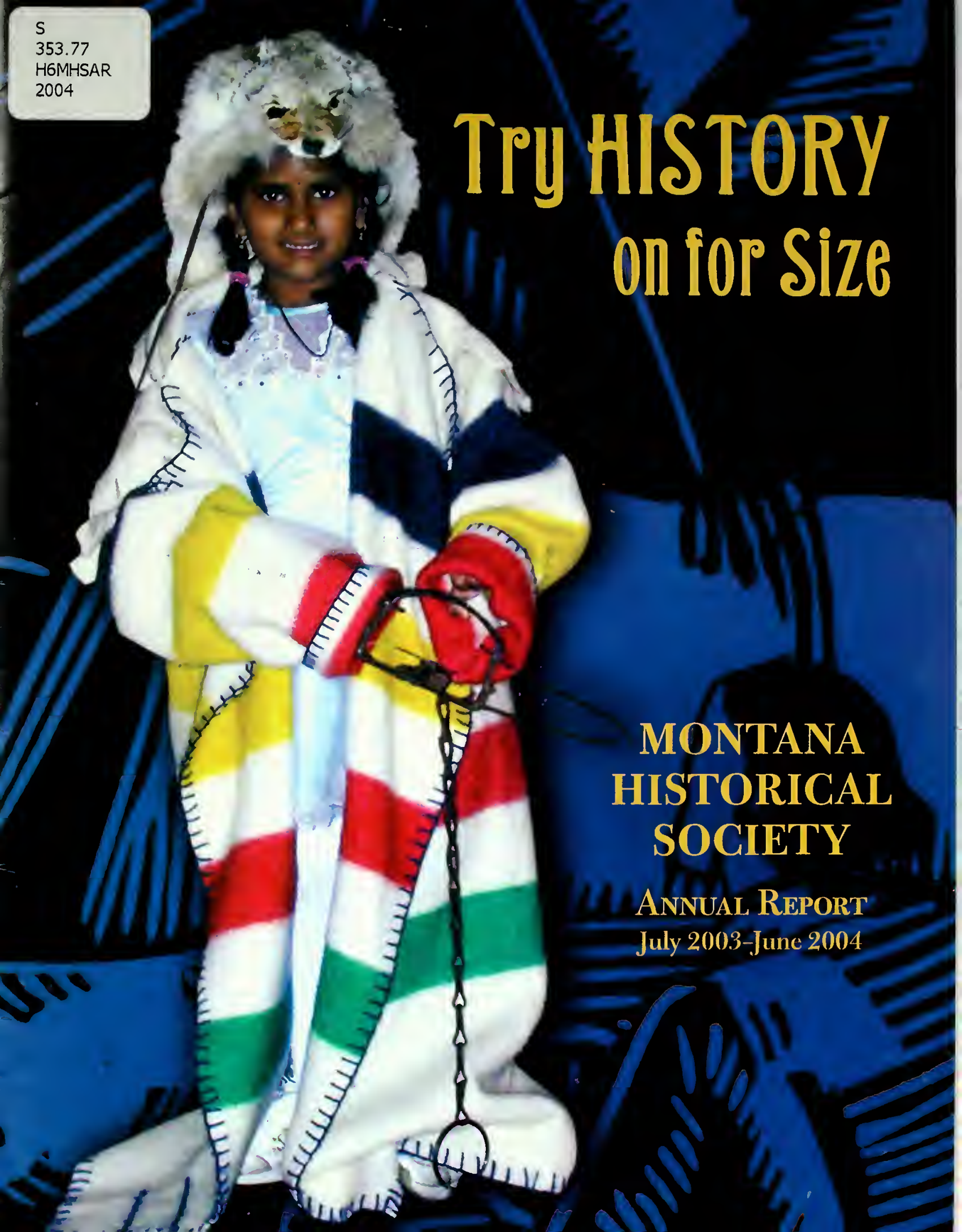

Try HISTORY on for Size

MONTANA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

ANNUAL REPORT
July 2003-June 2004

Try HISTORY on for Size

Montana State Library
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Society Events and Programs

- The 30th Annual Montana History Conference was held in Helena, in October 2003. Attended by over 200 people, it featured lectures, presentations, and the annual Board of Trustees awards banquet.
- The Society participated in the 100th anniversary of the Roosevelt Arch at Cardiner, Montana, in August 2003. Dignitaries included Teddy Roosevelt IV and Yellowstone National Park managers.
- The Western Rendezvous of Art was the most successful to date and generated approximately $40,000 for art acquisition.
- The 1st Annual September 11th Commemorative Breakfast at Fort Harrison, co-sponsored by the Society, the Montana National Guard, and local civic organizations, honored police, sheriffs, firefighters, military personnel, and EMTs, with Covernor Judy Martz as keynote speaker.
- The Society contributed a decorated tree for Helena's annual Festival of Trees with all proceeds benefiting the Intermountain Children's Home.
- The Original Governor's Mansion annual Christmas Home Tour and Cood Old Summertime Day were very successful this year.
- The Society initiated a highly popular Thursday night public program series in January 2004, with topics on genealogy research, caring for heirlooms, the Corps of Discovery in Montana, researching historic properties, archeology, and Pages in History, a new Society book club series on Montana history.
- The second meeting of the Society's Indian Advisory Panel was held in April 2004, focusing on the upcoming *Neither Empty Nor Unknown* exhibit.
- The Society partnered with the Yellowstone County Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Commission, offering a public train trip to Pompeys Pillar in June 2004 attended by over 300 people. The Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Railway Company donated use of the passenger train, shuttle buses, and refreshments.

www.montanahistoricalsociety.org

- The new interactive educational project, *What I Did On My Summer Vacation*, has been added to the Society's webpage.
- The Museum Store initiated on-line shopping on the Society's website with items from their annual merchandise catalog.
- Over 1,500 oral history catalog records from the Research Center's database were uploaded to an on-line catalog alongside Library and Photo Archives records at www.his.state.mt.us/research/library/onlinecatalogs.asp

Friends of the Society Volunteer Activities

- This year our 135 Friends of the Society volunteers donated over 8,170 hours to accomplish vital projects not otherwise possible—docent tours for museum patrons, cataloging artifacts and photos, compiling mailing materials, indexing the J. D. Homes newspaper collection, preparing food for receptions and gallery openings, helping transfer 4,000 books to the State Law Library, and assisting at the Western Rendezvous of Art, Cood Old Summertime Day, Last Chance Stampede, Under the Tent, and other Society events.

Society Exhibits

Montana's Museum

- *Youth Discover the Lewis and Clark Expedition* (new)
- *L. A. Huffman: Photographer of the American West* (new)
- *Montana Botanical* (new) featuring actual plant specimens collected by Lewis and Clark in 1805-06.
- *Hope in Hard Times* (new)
- *Pay Dirt Pictured* (new)

Sport'n Blood, *by Buckeye Blake. Painted bronze, 1980. Gift of Wells Fargo Bank*

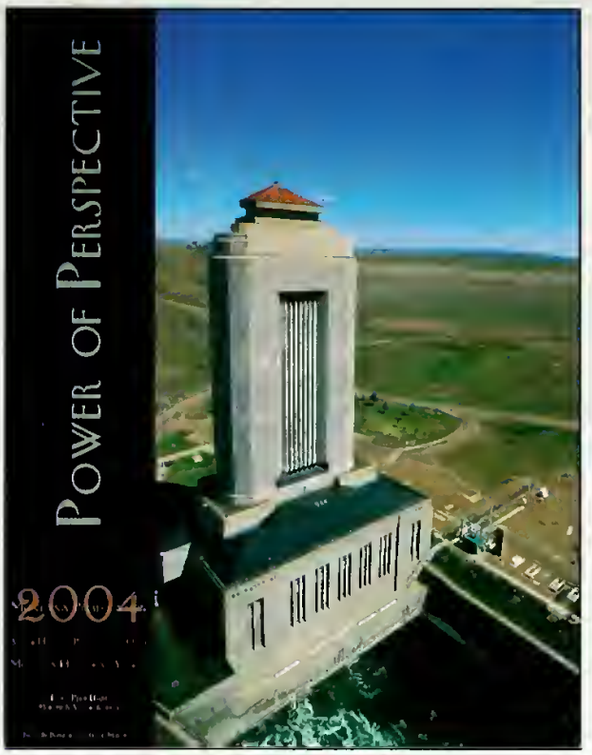
- *Montana Homeland*
- *Mackay Gallery of C. M. Russell Art*
- *Big Medicine*
- *It's About Time: A Brief History of the American Pocket Watch*
- *Treasure State Treasures*

State Capitol Exhibits

- A new base was crafted and installed for the Jeannette Rankin statue.
- The Wilbur Fisk Sanders statue was returned to the Capitol and exhibited on the first floor at the south stair landing near the Jeannette Rankin statue.
- A revised Capitol self-guided tour brochure was produced; a Japanese language version was also printed.

Traveling Exhibits

- *Documenting the Corps of Discovery* (new) in Billings, Chinook, Big Sky/Gallatin Gateway, Glasgow, Hamilton, Havre, Missoula
- *A Capital Capitol* in Fort Benton, Plentywood, Miles City, Butte
- *Hope in Hard Times: New Deal Photographs of Montana, 1936–1942* in Butte, Chinook, Great Falls, Glasgow, Hysham
- *Photographing Montana 1894–1928: The World of Evelyn Cameron* in Polson
- *F. Jay Haynes: Fifty Views* in Billings



State Historic Preservation Poster 2004, featuring Fort Peck Dam

State Historic Preservation Activities

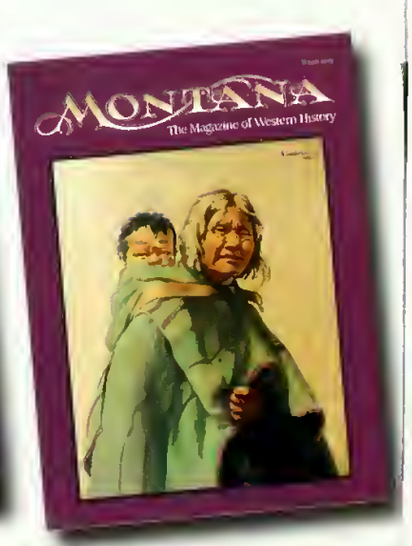
- Over 80 National Register plaques were completed this year, including locations in Superior, Red Lodge, Stevensville, Fort Benton, Anaconda, and Forsyth.
- Newly listed in the National Register of Historic Places:

  McCormick Neighborhood Historic District, Missoula, May 19, 2004
  Missoula Mercantile Warehouse, Missoula, April 6, 2004
  Bearcreek Bank, Carbon County, March 31, 2004
  Bones Brothers Ranch, near Birney, March 19, 2004
  Brewery Saloon, Kalispell, February 5, 2004
  First United Methodist Church Parsonage, Great Falls, December 23, 2003
  Thomas and Beulah Shore House, Miles City, December 18, 2003
  Dearborn River High Bridge, near Augusta, December 18, 2003
  Reid House, Missoula, December 18, 2003
  Walrond and Elizabeth Snell House, Miles City, September 11, 2003
  Union Bethel African Methodist Episcopal (AME) Church, Great Falls, September 11, 2003
  Benton Avenue Cemetery, Helena, July 24, 2003
  Warren Complex of Grant-Kohrs Ranch National Historic Site, Deer Lodge, July 11, 2003

- SHPO offered $20,000 in special project matching grants to 15 Montana communities participating in the certified local government (CLG) preservation program. Projects included an inventory of historic barns in Carbon County, a community preservation plan for Anaconda, development of a walking tour for Laurel, and partial rehabilitation of a Carnegie library in Lewistown.
- Distributed the 2004 Historic Preservation Poster, *Power of Perspective—Fort Peck Dam*, and the 2004 Montana Archaeology Week Poster, *Give Me Shelter—Garden Creek Wickiup*.
- SHPO initiated a project with the Bureau of Land Management, University of Montana, and Montana State Library to develop InfoSHARE, a state antiquities database sharing program, on the Natural Resource Information System website in a secure environment.
- Provided training for the local survey and inventory of historic buildings in Roundup and organized three meetings of the State Historic Preservation Review Board in Forsyth, Missoula, and Blue Bay.
- SHPO generated responses to 3,010 requests for information and reviews of projects with potential to impact state heritage properties and archaeological sites.

Montana Historical Society Publications

- Three books were published this year in the Indian Reading Series: *The Turtle Who Went to War*, *How the Summer Season Came*, and *How the Morning and Evening Stars Came to Be*. These books were published cooperatively with the Fort Peck Tribal Library.



- Dave Walter's *Christmastime in Montana* was published in October 2003.
- Paul Schullery's *Searching for Yellowstone* was reissued in April 2004.
- Our inaugural 2004 Montana Historical Society Membership Calendar was provided as an incentive gift to encourage $45 members to upgrade to $60 memberships.
- The 2005 Montana Historical Society Membership Calendar, featuring historic recipes and photographs from the Research Center collections, is now available for purchase in stores around the state.

Eagle Chief, Assiniboine, *by Joe Scheuerle. Gouache on paper, 1914. Gift of the Scheuerle Family*

Publication Awards

- Mary Murphy's *Hope in Hard Times: New Deal Photographs of Montana, 1936–1942* was selected as the first place winner of the 2003 Montana Book Award. This annual award recognizes literary and/or artistic excellence in a book published during the year.
- Garrit Voggesser's article, "Redeeming Animal Ecological Capital: Hunting, Fishing, and Wildlife on the Blackfeet, Flathead, and Fort Peck Reservations, 1900–1940," won the 2004 Burlingame-Toole Award for best student essay submitted to *Montana The Magazine of Western History*. He is a University of Oklahoma doctoral candidate.
- Allan Mathews's *Guide to Historic Missoula*, volume 6 in the montana Historical Society Press's Montana Mainstreet series, received a Certificate of Commendation for excellence from the American Association for State and Local History.

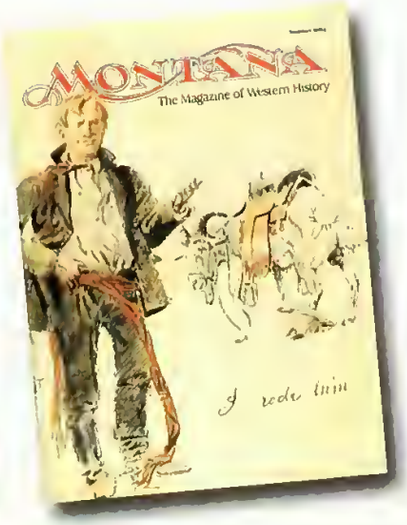
Helping Montana Schools Teach History

Education Office

- Assisted the Golden Triangle Curriculum Cooperative with their Teaching American History Grant by conducting statewide educational resource workshops.
- Hosted the first meeting of the Teachers Advisory Committee to assist the Society with an NEH-funded project to provide a DVD-format curriculum, *The Big Picture: Montana in the 20th Century*.
- Held the first week-long Pioneer Kids Camp, introducing young students to history, in partnership with Helena's Community Works!
- Summer Activity Day programs—Discover the Corps of Discovery, It's an Animal's Life, and Celebrate Montana's Indian Cultures—attracted 500 children.

Montana Heritage Project

- The Rural School and Community Trust featured Heritage Project schools in the August 2003 issue of *Rural Roots*. The George Lucas Educational Foundation spotlighted Libby's work in the 2003 summer issue of *Edutopia Online*.
- Teachers and students from Bigfork, Roundup, Chester, and Simms gave presentations at Montana's annual MEA/MFT meeting in October 2003, showcasing each community's project.
- Held the 6th Annual Youth Heritage Festival in Helena on March 29–30, 2004. 120 students from 10 communities presented their research findings. Librarian of Congress James Billington gave the keynote address.
- The 10th Annual Summer Institute for teachers occurred June 20–26, 2004, in White Sulphur Springs and Harlowton, providing educators with opportunities to work with local historic documents, buildings, and ranches; prehistoric sites; CPS and GIS applications; local museums; and a Hutterite colony.
- SHPO's Stan Wilmoth, Damon Murdo, and Melissa Ray conducted an archaeological field workshop near Harlowton for Heritage Project students April 22–24, 2004, and one for teachers June 23–24. 2004.
- Teachers in Thompson Falls, Dillon, Brady, Fairfield, Centerville, Great Falls Central, and St. Labre became Heritage Project affiliates in June.



New Acquisitions, Donations, and Conservation Projects

Research Center: 3,528 books and maps, 608 feet of archival records, 2,789 cassette tapes, 408 compact discs, and 4,321 photographic images were added to the permanent collection this year. The staff assisted 11,556 patrons with research questions in person, by telephone, or via e-mail.

- State Archivist Molly Kruckenberg processed the records of the 58th Legislature, including 2,500 audiotapes and 300 video compact discs.

- In partnership with the National Park Service, Oral Historian/ Archivist Jodie Foley undertook a statewide survey on Montana homesteaders for the Homestead National Monument of America's oral history project.
- As a result of an enthusiastic donor response to a statewide appeal for high school yearbooks, the Research Center substantially increased its holdings in this area.
- Photograph Archives completed Phase One of their plan to create a digital imaging lab with the goal of being able to provide digital reproductions to the public within three years.
- Allegra Graphics (formerly Insty Prints) of Helena donated a Xerox 2510 oversize copy machine to be used in the Research Center for duplicating maps.

Montana's Museum: 95 new collections and 962 objects were added to the collection this year. Included are a complete WW II WASP uniform worn by pilot Margaret Goldhahn of Big Sandy; Montana artist Buckeye Blake's painted bronze, *Sport' n Blood*; woman's wristwatch, c. 1915, belonging to Myrtle Storey Campbell of Anaconda; Indian artifacts collected by Henry Sieben between 1870–1900 near Fort Peck; six Indian portrait paintings by noted ethnographic artist Joe Scheuerle; carpentry and sawmill tools used in an Arlee-area sawmill, 1880–1957; and a Salish/Pend d' Oreille woman's beaded dance collar, c.1920s.

Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Commission Activities

- Held Montana's 5th Annual Lewis and Clark Conference was held in Lewistown on October 2–3, 2003. Conference highlights included a traditional Indian luncheon and encampment.
- Awarded $32,300 in 2004 Organization and Planning Grants to 17 regional bicentennial commissions and Montana tribes.
- Sent 600 copies of the newly expanded *Lewis & Clark Educators' Resource Guide* to Montana school and public libraries through support from Qwest and The Watercourse at Montana State University.
- Held a "First Day of Issue" ceremony announcing three new Lewis and Clark postage stamps at the Great Falls Interpretive Center on May 14, 2004.
- Staged a Performing Arts Showcase in Livingston on June 17–18, 2004, giving 21 performers and presenters the opportunity to showcase their Lewis and Clark programs.

Major Fiscal Year '04 Grants and Donations

- The NEH awarded a grant to the Education Office to develop a DVD curriculum on 20th-century Montana history. This 30-month project will result in DVD distribution to Montana schools statewide.
- The Liz Claiborne Art Ortenberg Foundation continued to fully support the Montana Heritage Project.
- A Montana Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Commission Grant funded the Society's Native American Advisory Board, Native consultants, and Native-made reproduction artifacts for the new *Neither Empty Nor Unknown* exhibit.
- The Montana Land Title Association Foundation renewed its contribution to the Society's Historic Property Fund to assist property owners in the preparation of nominations for the National Register of Historic Places.
- A Montana Cultural and Aesthetics Grant funded 20 interviews for the Woolgrowers' Oral History Project.
- The Montana History Foundation awarded Montana's Museum funds for educational components of the new Lewis and Clark exhibit.
- The Research Center received grants from the NHPRC and the NEH for records processing, digital access, and conservation projects.
- Power Townsend, DeWALT, Starbucks Coffee, and Home Depot contributed to the new *Neither Empty Nor Unknown* exhibit and other projects.
- Completed and delivered the *Camp to Capital* guidebook, prepared with a Helena Education Foundation Great Ideas Grant, to Helena's Central Elementary School.

Museum Store

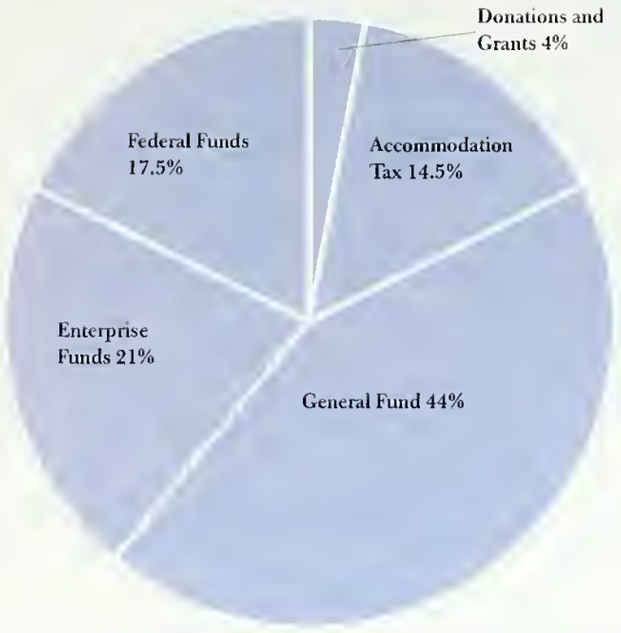
- The annual May 2004 tent sale was the most successful to date.
- The first full-color, 20-page annual store catalog was produced.

The store debuted Harley Brown's new book, *Confessions of a Starving Artist: The Art & Life of Harley Brown"* at the 2003 Western Rendezvous of Art.

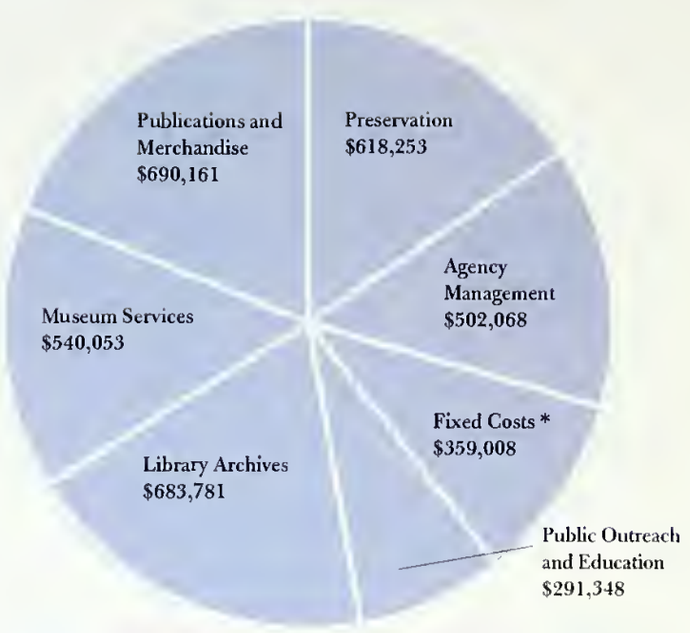
Child's dog sled, made by the donor's father as a Christmas gift for her in 1946. Gift of Alexandra Swaney

Montana Historical Society Annual Base Budget: $3,684,682

Funding



Expenditures



* Fixed Costs include rent, insurance, capitol grounds maintenance

Society at a Glance

- Governed by a 15-member statewide Board of Trustees appointed by the Governor.
- Organized into 5 programs: Research Center (Library, Archives, Photograph Archives), Museum, Publications, State Historic Preservation Office, and Agency Management.
- Functions with 52 full-time and 12 part-time employees and an annual budget of $3.6 million.
- Publishes a quarterly western history journal, an electronic newsletter, and three to six books each year.
- Lists a dozen Montana properties on the National Register of Historic Places and promotes $3 to $5 million in historic preservation rehabilitation work through tax credit incentives annually.
- Holds in trust for Montana: Over 100,000 books; 450,000 historic photographs; 16,000 maps; 2,000 oral history interviews; 13,000 cubic feet of archival materials; 435,000 artifacts; 5,000 pieces of artwork; 43,000 inventory files for all recorded Montana archaeological, historic, and architectural sites; and 27,000 cultural resource survey reports.
- Owner of the Original Governor's Mansion in Helena, which it manages with assistance from a citizen restoration board.
- Qualifies under federal tax codes to receive tax-deductible charitable gifts and actively solicits private and public grants.

The **Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Commission,** administratively attached to the Society, coordinates with all regional bicentennial commissions, state and federal agencies, and Montana's tribal nations as preparations move forward for Montana's 2005–2006 Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Commemoration. Through June 2004, the Commission granted $966,407 to facilitate a wide spectrum of Montana-based Lewis and Clark planning and project developments through its grants program.

The **Montana Heritage Project,** funded by the Liz Claiborne Art Ortenberg Foundation, sponsors high school students and teachers in Big Fork, Chester, Corvallis, Harlowton, Ronan, Roundup, Simms, Townsend, White Sulphur Springs, and Whitefish, helping them to ask critical questions about their region's past, conduct primary source research, and provide communities with programs, oral histories, exhibits, and archives.

The **Montana History Foundation,** an independent 501(c)(3) organization, focuses on supporting the Society and its affiliated organizations through its History Runs Through It campaign to make Montana history accessible to all, which includes pursuing funding for the new Scriver Center.

The **Society's membership program** helps to fund our efforts to provide visitors with rich exhibits and thoughtful interpretation of the West's epic history. An individual annual membership is $45, which includes unlimited free admission to Montana's Museum and the Original Governor's Mansion, 15% discounts at the Museum Store, a yearly subscription to *Montana The Magazine of Western History* and the Montana Post newsletter, and other benefits. A family membership is $60. To help the membership program generate new revenue and expand its operations, the annual Montana Historical Society Calendar is available through the Museum Store for $8.50.

Try HISTORY on for Size

History comes in a wide variety of shapes and sizes—from priceless artifacts to rare photographs, from historic homes to pioneer family diaries, from original paintings to unique sculpture.

The Montana Historical Society invites everyone to try history on for size. Our renowned Western and Native American collections have established Montana's Museum as one of the nation's best. Our educational outreach program brings history into classrooms across the state with a wide variety of hands-on learning resources. The Publications Program covers all facets of our culture in *Montana The Magazine of Western History*—a recognized leader in its field—and in the Montana Historical Society Press's award-winning books. Our Research Center collects government and private records, oral histories, books, newspapers, maps, photographs, and other documents from across the state and provides public access to these valuable items. The Montana Heritage Project makes local history come alive through exciting student and teacher community research projects. The Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Commission continues to spearhead statewide activities for the upcoming 2005–2006 commemoration. Our State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) assists communities across Montana in local preservation efforts. The National Register sign program prepares interpretive plaques for owners of register-listed properties throughout the state.

All facets of our history come together at the Montana Historical Society. We proudly share this past year's accomplishments with you in this report.

Spurring on Support for History

Dear Friends,

Since its inception in 1865, the Montana Historical Society has remained firmly committed to preserving and interpreting Montana and Western American history—the foundation upon which all Society programs are built.

As outlined in the statute that made the Society a state agency in 1891, our mission is to

- collect, preserve, and interpret material that reflects and documents the history and prehistory of Montana and the region;
- interpret Montana history through study, exhibits, publications, and educational programs;
- encourage the preservation of Montana's historical, architectural, archeological, and related cultural resources; and
- encourage and support high-quality research, publications, and exhibits that interpret local, state, and regional history and cooperate with other institutions toward those ends.

The varied activities highlighted in this annual report reflect a commitment to our mission. However, each tick of the clock creates a greater responsibility for the Society, because as every hour passes, more history is made.

For citizens of a democracy, history offers the ingredients essential to personal development and informed public debate. We can learn from the past, but history's benefits are neither free nor obvious. Each of us has to search for the evidence, listen to the stories, read history and evaluate it. Historical organizations are preeminent among civic institutions in helping us with these efforts.

All accounts of the past are derived from memory and traditions and from documents, images, artifacts, buildings, monuments, landscapes, and ruins. The fallibility of memory and inevitable erosion of all things makes preserving the past vital to our ability to understand who we are and what we may become. In turn, our awareness of history will make our communities better places to live.

Securing history's benefits for upcoming generations is our collective responsibility. How are we doing? What messages are we sending to our young people—tomorrow's stewards of our heritage? Our current level of commitment – or lack thereof – will shape the opinion of our youth about history's importance.

One measure of that commitment is how well our historical institutions are funded. Where does the Montana Historical Society stand among civic fiscal priorities? I believe we can do better. A more dependable and sustainable funding mechanism is needed, allowing us to maintain and expand our efforts.

Despite the current fiscal climate, the Society remains hopeful and optimistic that the people of Montana and their elected officials will "do the right thing." Reasons for optimism can be found in a sampling of accomplishments this past year—the continued dedication and initiative of our staff that brought in over $250,000 in grants; private donations of wonderful artifacts and art, such as the paintings of Joe Scheuerle (a contemporary and friend of C. M. Russell) that has created the only publicly accessible collection of this artist's work in the country; the generosity of donors such as the Sobotka ranching family of Glendive who gave a planned estate gift of $250,000; in-kind and other donations from private businesses; the most successful Western Rendezvous of Art to date; many new educational outreach programs; advances in research capability; quality new publications; strides in historic preservation; and the creation of new, significant, and historic art for our beautiful State Capitol. However, significant challenges remain—the critical need for updating our facilities, opening the Bob Scriver Center so more people can benefit from his incredible collection of sculpture, reestablishing full operating hours, replacing critical staff and resources cut by past state legislatures, updating and enhancing our computer technology to make history more accessible to all, and having adequate resources to meet increasing public demand and statutory mandates.

All citizens must decide what part they should play in providing good stewardship of Montana's rich history and what example they should set for our youth in caring for our history after we are gone. Won't you "try history on for size?"

Above: Man's hand-painted sting tie, c. 1950. Gift of Mimi McDonnell Cremer

Left: 1940s Hyer cowboy boots with star spurs. Gift of Monty Montgomery

Arnold Olsen, Ph.D.
Director